

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Feb 06 2006 2:18PM HP IP GROUP FAX

281-514-8332

p. 4

Application No. 10/716,257
Response to OA of 12/08/2005

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

FEB 06 2006

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend paragraph [0015] beginning on page 6 as follows:

[0015] During the winding process, the leader tape 40 winds around the arcuate perimeter 32 of the hub 30 as well as the flattened region 34 of the hub 30. As the leader tape 40 is wound around the hub 32, the leader tape 40 draws the guide member 38 toward the take-up reel 26. Because of the pre-threading of the leader tape 40, the guide member 38 travels a path across the rollers 41-18 and the data head 20 towards the take-up reel 26. Moreover, because the guide member 38 is coupled to the magnetic tape 14 via the leader pin 18, the magnetic tape 14 is also drawn along this path towards the take-up reel 26. The leader tape 40 may be sized to position the guide member 38 onto the flattened region 34 of the hub 30 when the leader tape 40 is almost, if not completely, wound around the hub 30. That is, the length of the leader tape 40 places the flat portion of the half-moon shaped guide member 38 against the flattened region 34 of the hub. Accordingly, the arcuate perimeter 32 of the hub and the arcuate portion of the half-moon shaped guide member 38 may cooperate to form a substantially continuous surface for receiving the magnetic tape 14 during the winding process, as illustrated in FIG. 2. Indeed, this positioning of the hub 30 and the guide member 38 may be accomplished by coordinating the length of the leader tape with the circumference of the guide member 38.